



COMMENTERIAL DEMITAL HYGIZMISTS ASSOCIATION. INC COMPONING FOR DRAW HOLLTS MARKACESENT

H.B. No. 5630 (RAISED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LICENSURE FOR AN ADVANCED PRACTICE DENTAL HYGIENE PRACTITIONER.

To the Public Health Committee:

Testimony from Mary Moran Boudreau, RDH, MBA Connecticut Dental Hygienists' Association Executive Director Resident of Windsor, Connecticut March 4, 2009

I support Bill # 5630, AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LICENSURE FOR AN ADVANCED PRACTICE DENTAL HYGIENE PRACTITIONER.

The American Dental Hygienists' Association's Vision states that we are "professionals promoting total health through quality oral health care."

I urge your support the development of an Advanced Dental Hygiene Practitioner (ADHP). The ADHP is a midlevel dental provider similar to the medical midlevel, the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). The goal is to increase access to oral care to those presently not being served with the goal of promoting total health.

As the CDHA Executive Director, member of the DPH Task Force on Oral Access for Older Adults, member of the Advisory Committee for DPH Dental Home By One, member of Connecticut Oral Health Initiative (COHI) and many other committees and organizations, I constantly hear the need for access to oral care beyond the prevention we, dental hygienists, do already for many of our Connecticut population where there are not enough dentists providing it. The ADHP would be one option to correct this situation. There are already registered dental hygienists (RDH) in many of these areas, why not take advantage of this opportunity.

The ADHP is a registered dental hygienist with a masters degree, educated at an accredited dental hygiene school that includes completing didactic and clinical competencies to perform the for the highest standards of clinical care. The ADHP will perform the scope of practice of a dental hygienist and have additional procedures such as limited restorative procedures combined with referrals to dentist and other medical personnel for total health.

Please email me at maryb-cdha-rdh@snet.net or call me at 860-688-7307 to let me know your stance on Bill 5630 or certainly if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Mary Moran Boudreau, RDH, MBA Executive Director Connecticut Dental Hygienists' Association